recommendation on various aspects of agricultural policies and programmes including food security system, export of farm products and issue relating to treating agriculture at par with industry.

Children suffering from birth Asphyxia

604. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that millions of children in the country who suffer from congential asphyxia (lack of oxygen supply at the time of birth) have to suffer life long from a mental retardation and handicap;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in developed countries there is a definite law for safeguarding the interests of these mentally handicapped children; and

(c) if so, what steps are being contemplated by Government to identify such mentally handicapped persons and to safeguard their interests with a view to ensuring them with a happy life with dignity?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELAFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):(a) to (c) Asphyxia is one of the important causes of brain damage in children and it most often occurs during the prenatal period. Brain damage can have many adverse consequences of which mental retardation and cerebral palsy are important. Since 70—80% of the births in India take place at home, no reliable data, regarding the birth asphyxia and the after effects are available.

A few countries like USA and U.K. have enacted law for the compulsory education of the disabled children including mantally handicapped.

Government of India, under the Scheme of Grant-in-aid to Voluntary-agencies provides funds to organisations for understanding programmes of re-habilitation for the mentally handicapped. Setting up of a 'National Trust for Mentally Handicapped' through legislation is also under consideration of the Government.

Enforcement of land ceilings

605. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the Chief Ministers' Conference held on June, 11 and 12, 1990 it was decided not to lower the land ceilings, but only to enforce the existing ceilings more effectively;

(b) if so, what are the existing land ceilings in different States in respect of different types of lands; and

(c) the area of the land rendered surplus as a result of enforcement of land ceilings which still remains to be distributed to the landless peasants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following land ceilings for different kinds of land are applicable in the States:

(Area in Hectares)

Sl. No.	States	Irrigated with two crops	Irrigated with one crop	Dry land
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4.05 to 7.28	6.07 to 10.93	14.16 to 21.85
2.	Assam	6.74	6.74	6.74
3.	Bihar	6.07 to 7.28	10.12	12.14 to 18.21
4.	Gujarat	4.05 to 7.29	6.07 to 10.93	8.09 to 21.85